

Remarks/Arguments:

Claim 1 has been amended to correct a minor language problem.

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mikeska et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,254,191) in view of JP 11-121645. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

. . .forming a conductive pattern. . .

. . .stacking an un-sintered green sheet to cover the conductive pattern. . .

The Official Action takes the position that stacking with an un-sintered green sheet is disclosed by the art of record. Regarding Mikeska, the Official Action argues that Mikeska discloses "laminating to the ceramic substrate in unfired tape (green sheet)." Mikeska's substrate, however, is not Applicant's claimed un-sintered green sheet. Mikeska only discloses ceramic tape. Accordingly, Applicant's claimed feature of an un-sintered green sheet is missing from the Mikeska reference. Mikeska was combined with JP 11-121645. '645, however, merely discloses insulating layer 21 on conductor pattern 3. Thus, '645 also lacks Applicant's claimed green sheet. As neither reference of record discloses Applicant's green sheet, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claim 7 is also patentable over the art of record for reasons similar to those set forth above with regards to claim 1.

The remaining claims are all patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claims 20 and 21 are newly added. Each of these claims recite the step of "removing the heat-resistant substrate." This feature is supported in the originally filed application at page 5, line 15. No new matter has been added.

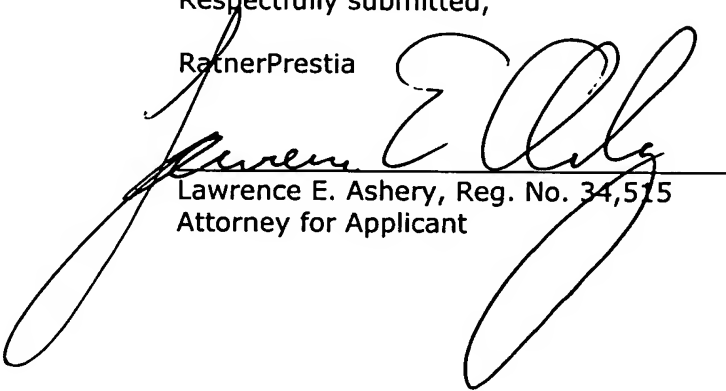
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In view of the arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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November 20, 2003